

RUSSIAN PLAYWRIGHT in GEORGETOWN.

Maxim Gorky Has Unique Experience in the City on the Summit.

According to the London Daily Mail, Maxim Gorky, Russia's playwright and radical leader, had a most unique experience in Georgetown, S. C. Gorky, whose radical utterances during the war did not please Europeans, fled to the United States and traveled around under an assumed name. He appeared at Georgetown and found that he was to be impersonated at the local theatre that night by a man calling himself Gorky, the author of the play, "The Lower Depths." The story as told by the Georgetown Index is interesting:

London, Dec. 15.—Maxim Gorky, the playwright and radical writer, had an unusual experience when traveling in America during his exile from Russia, according to a story going the rounds here. Among the towns he visited was Georgetown, S. C., where he found one of his own plays, "The Lower Depths," billed, together with an announcement that our multitudinous performance the Probable appearance in person to satisfaction of the audience. The actress naturally went to enjoy this secretary found that when the curtain fell the last act of his play was made up to resemble him before the footlights and told the audience in broken English how he felt at the reception. The dramatic drama. Going round to the stage door, Gorky tackled his impersonator, who confessed that he perpetrated the same fraud in many small towns.

"I have also," he added, "passed myself off as Rostand, Sudermann and Maurice Donnay. It pleases the public and does the real authors to harm."

Gorky was so amused at the man's cheek that he promised not to expose him, and refrained from disclosing his identity during the remainder of his brief stay in Georgetown.

The above appeared in the London Mail, Dec. 15th, 1920, and was recently copied by the Baltimore Sun. A relative of Dr. H. M. Hucks, of this city noticed it in the Sun and sent a clipping to him.

Mr. E. C. Haselden states to the press that he remembers a peculiar person coming to the ticket office here and having a few words with him relative to the picture mentioned above which was being shown. He did not give his name, but stated that he knew the author and was very anxious to see the production. Mr. Haselden states that the statement made by Gorky concerning the impersonation that the author would appear in person at the conclusion of the production to be absolutely so and that no one appeared at the footlights.

Mr. Haselden is quite certain that Gorky was the man who appeared at the ticket office and had a few words to say in reference to the production, and that he was following his pictures to see how popular they were with the audiences.

In this instance the city of Georgetown has had quite a bit of advertising in this and foreign countries.

SIX DIE FROM CARELESSNESS.

Washington Courthouse, Ohio, Jan. 23.—Six members of the family of James Adkins, living fourteen miles north of here, were burned to death early this morning when fire destroyed their home. Adkins was fatally burned.

The fire followed the explosion of a coal stove into which Adkins poured kerosene on to hot coals in an effort to start it quickly.

The dead are: Mrs. James Adkins, 30; Grace Adkins, 14; Leona Adkins, 11; Naomi Ruth Adkins, 4; Freeda Adkins, three weeks.

Walter Bennett, 70; uncle of Mrs. Adkins.

Shortly after 2 o'clock this morning Mr. Adkins arose to heat water for his three week old daughter, who was ill. Immediately on pouring kerosene into the stove from a two gallon can, the burning oil was thrown to all parts of the room by the explosion. Mrs. Adkins and her baby who occupied a bed in one corner of the room were immediately enveloped in flames.

The three younger children and Mr. Bennett occupied a single room on the second floor of the four room dwelling. Adkins after rushing from the burning building, rolled in the mud and then ran half a mile to a neighbor's home. Excepting the collar his clothing was burned from his body.

By the time neighbors arrived at the dwelling it was a mass of smoldering embers. Adkins was brought to a hospital here where his death is momentarily expected. He was employed as a farm laborer.

Services at the Methodist Church, Main Street Methodist Church, Dr. Watson B. Duncan, Pastor.

Sunday School at 10 A. M., Mr. W. H. Muller, Superintendent.

Prayer Subject: "The Efficient Church."

Evening Subject: "What to Do With Our Troubles."

Prayer Service on Wednesday at 4 P. M.

Public cordially invited to all services.

YOUNG MAN MEETS HORRIBLE DEATH.

R. C. Murray Ground to Death by Train at Rennert.

At Rennert, a small station 12 miles this side of Fayetteville, R. C. Murray, a brakeman on a through freight was crushed to death last Friday morning in a most horrible manner. The freight was taking the siding to allow the Palmetto Limited to pass, and Murray climbed through the engine cab window and went out to the front of the engine to be ready to throw the switch. In some way he lost his footing and fell in front of the engine. When the engine reached the switch gate and Murray did not make his appearance the engineer began to look for him. His remains were found some distance down the track, ten box cars having passed over him and mangled his body in a most horrible manner. Murray had a young wife and several children who lived at Rocky Mount.

WILD MAN IS DRIVEN TO LIGHT; CAUGHT HIS WIFE IN BEAR TRAP.

Laurel, Miss., Jan. 24.—Driven from his cabin in the swamps along Leaf river by high water, Albert Parsons, an aged white man, and a woman, who says she is his wife, were brought to Laurel today and placed in the county poor house. The finding of Parsons is believed to set at rest the reports of a wild man, current for years, said to be living in this section.

Parsons says he and his wife lived on wild root berries and what animals they were able to trap. With them when found was a child which in spite of the cold, was entirely without clothing. Parsons told the sheriff that he caught his wife in a steel trap many years ago.

Authorities today were conducting investigations in an effort to ascertain whether the two year old child had been kidnapped.

Parsons, in good physical condition despite his age and the hardships of his life, told county authorities that he was in possession of homestead rights to property adjoining the tumble down cabin which has been the home of the couple for years. The child he declined to discuss.

The woman, he said, he captured in a bear trap twenty three years ago and made her his wife. Although incoherent in her statement, the woman stated she thought she was fifty years old and remembered having been in a fight with a wild cat some time ago. One of her eyes was put out and her body badly scarred.

When found, the man's clothes were in tatters, the woman wore but a single garment, and the child, a girl, was naked. The child was apparently in splendid health and she seemed to have been well fed.

Parsons was aided in his primitive farming by a blind horse, which he said, he captured.

MAY CLEAR UP MYSTERY.

Of Wild Man and Wife in Mississippi Swamp.

Jackson, Jan. 24.—Mississippi authorities who have been attempting to uncover the history of Albert Parsons, alleged "wild man," his wife and two year old baby girl, who strayed into the village of Lux last Friday with a strange story of life in the wilds along the Leaf river, today received a statement from Miss Floyd Mabry, a Red Cross worker, which may clear the mystery.

Miss Mabry declared that the baby is the child of the couple and also assert that both Parsons and his wife had reported to her weekly.

The couple on arriving at Lux said they had lived on roots, fruits and game in the river bottoms for some years. Parsons said he caught the woman in a bear trap twenty three years ago. She explained the loss of an eye by saying it had been scratched out by a wildcat. He gave his age as seventy and she said she was fifty years of age.

The authorities are investigating Miss Mabry's statements and in the meantime the trio are being cared for at the County Poorhouse at Ellisville.

PETITION IN BANKRUPTCY

Mr. W. C. Parham filed a petition in bankruptcy in the United States Court at Charleston yesterday. His assets are placed at \$153,665.30 and his liabilities are placed at \$147,862.70. Mr. Parham was on of Latta's largest and most progressive merchants and his many friends throughout the county will regret to learn that he is to discontinue business. Mr. Parham did a large business last year and owing to the great depression in the price of farm products and the decline in the price of merchandise he was unable to realize on his assets, and the only course left was to liquidate his business.

The Junior Order of American Mechanics will hold its annual banquet at the Hall room tonight, beginning at 7:30 o'clock.

In the municipal election held at Marion Tuesday Palmer W. Johnson was defeated for mayor by Geo. McKerrall by a vote of 319 to 210. Mr. Johnson had served his fourth term as mayor and had given the people a progressive administration.

Motion pictures showing criminals in action have been barred in Chicago.

TEN MEET DEATH IN BIG EXPLOSION.

Head of Company Where Gasoline Was Being Unloaded Blames Spontaneous Combustion.

Memphis, Jan. 24.—Ten negroes dead, approximately a score injured, some probably fatally, and property damage estimated at \$200,000 made up the known toll tonight of an explosion of Casing Head gasoline awaiting unloading from a tank car to the plant of the Colyar Reese company in North Memphis, which let go this morning with a blast that wrecked a part of the oil plant, leveled a block of frame dwellings and shook the entire north end of the city.

Of the injured two are white persons, L. C. Scott, superintendent of the Reese plant, and L. C. Wilder, truck superintendent. Both were badly burned but physicians stated tonight they will recover.

Colyar Reese, president of the oil company, attributed the explosion to spontaneous combustion due to the contact of vapor escaping from the tank car when the metallic cap was removed preparatory to unloading the car, came in contact with atmosphere. The tank car, which contained 8,000 gallons of casing head gasoline, produced by the absorption process, was shipped here from Kellyville, Okla., Mr. Reese stated, and was loaded in a low temperature. When the cap was removed, according to his theory, the vapor came in contact with much higher atmospheric conditions here and the explosion followed.

It was stated that representatives of the United States bureau of explosives and exports from the refinery from which the car was shipped will arrive tomorrow to definitely determine the cause of blast. When the explosion let go a row of frame tenement houses along an entire block were splintered and the occupants blown to the street or caught under the falling timbers. Most of those killed outright were badly mangled while several of the injured were so badly burned they died soon after reaching a hospital. When police and firemen reached the scene the street and alleys in the vicinity were littered with splintered timbers and torn and twisted household goods, with the dead and injured caught in the same tangled maze of wreckage.

Andrew McKintry, the negro who was removing the dome from the tank when the explosion occurred, was hurled several hundred feet through the air. He was badly burned and died tonight. McKintry was quoted as saying that, when he removed the cap, gas rose to a height of 20 feet and formed a pall of black smoke which ignited and exploded.

Almost simultaneously pools of oil on the ground caught fire and a second explosion occurred. One report was that McKintry used a chisel in attempting to remove the cap from the car. This, however, has not been verified. Mr. Reese stated that his investigation disproved any theory other than that the explosion was caused by spontaneous combustion.

Beside the damage in the immediate vicinity window glasses within a radius of several blocks were shattered by the concussion which was felt a distance of half a mile from the scene.

Two sheds at the plant of the Colyar Reese plant were lifted from their foundation. Fire which followed in the wake of the explosion completed the work of destruction. The flames were checked, however, before they spread beyond the splintered wreckage.

TRAGEDY DIDN'T IMPRESS.

Night Watchman Saw Four Drowned Went Home and Forgot It.

When an automobile loaded with men and women dashed into the Chicago river and disappeared the tragedy failed to excite Thomas Hanlon, a watchman says a dispatch. He informed the authorities he had witnessed the accident Saturday night but "forgot about it."

Divers working from fire boats dragged a big green touring car from the river today but no bodies were found. Search for the bodies will be continued.

"I heard a big car roaring down the street that ends at the river and wondered where it could be going?" Hanlon explained. "When I saw from the head lights it would plunge in the river I shouted a warning but I guess they did not hear me. The car was going 50 miles an hour. When it went over the bank I saw a man jump and heard the women scream. There was a splash. I followed to the river bank but there was not a thing on the surface to indicate where the car had gone down. I went home and forgot about it."

Hanlon claimed there were two men in the front seat and two men and two women in the rear seat.

Royal H. Myers identified the car as one stolen from him. Later another automobile was dragged from the same place in the river. Oscar Lusting identified it as one stolen from him in 1916. The authorities believe it was abandoned by the thieves and allowed to plunge over the embankment.

Philadelphia has established a separate court for dealing with bandits.

COUNTY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS.

News Items of Interest to Herald Readers Ebb and Flow of the Human Tide.

Mrs. J. C. Blake and children have returned to their home in Charlotte, N. C.

Luther Carmichael of Chicago is spending some time here with relatives. This is his first trip home in nearly ten years.

Mrs. W. K. Fort is spending a few days at Lake View.

Misses Hayes of Kemper and Swintz of Marion were the week end guests of Miss Emma Carmichael.

Mrs. Matthew Allen of near Tifton, Ga., spent last week here with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Rogers and baby of Dillon spent Sunday here with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rogers.

Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Carmichael and children of Charlotte spent several days here with Mrs. Annie Carmichael last week.

A meeting of the Fork School Improvement Association was held at the school building Friday afternoon, Jan. 21st. The following program was rendered:

- 1 Song: "He Leadeth Me."
- 2 Bible Reading, Mrs. L. M. Rogers.
- 3 Some Things Our Community Needs, by Mrs. Frank Rogers.
- 4 Instrumental Solo, Mrs. Ruby Fort Carmichael.
- 5 Reading: "Which Blow, by Miss Coleen Bethea.
- 6 Business Session.
- 7 Recitation: Our Club, by Clara Bethea.
- 8 Social Hour.

Refreshments were served consisting of lemonade and cake.

Sellers.

Mr. Ronald Brown and Miss Eva Brown of Kershaw were quietly married on last Sunday Jan. 16th.

Rev. W. C. Foster preached an able sermon at Antioch on last Sunday afternoon, after which he tendered his resignation as pastor of the church. Rev. Foster has preached very acceptably at Antioch for the past three years, and the people generally hate to see him leave.

Misses Lucile Wingard and Henrietta Hammond of Branchville are the attractive guests of Mrs. Pratt Watson and Mrs. Hughes.

Miss Annie Sellers of Washington, D. C., is visiting relatives in town.

Mrs. Fred Williams and daughter Miss Edith with Miss Augusta Bethea were visitors at the Methodist church Sunday afternoon.

Miss Ruth Sellers who has been on the sick list for the past week has returned to her studies at Columbia College.

Mrs. Annie T. Watson of Latta visited relatives at Sellers Sunday.

GOVERNOR COOPER'S VETO SUSTAINED.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 20.—The house of representatives today by a vote of 69 to 39 sustained Governor Cooper's veto of a resolution passed last year to relieve County Treasurer W. L. Bellamy of Horry and his bonds, men from liability of the failure to collect penalties on taxes. The shortage was said to have totaled approximately seven thousand dollars.

The house today killed a bill which would have required that no judge should suspend sentence for sale of liquor except on recommendation of the jury and in no case unless the conviction involved possession of less than a quart. Before it died an amendment was introduced to raise this limit to one barrel. This put the house into an uproar of laughter.

DILLON BOY KNOWS HOW TO SAVE.

Mr. W. E. Hall, of the Dillon Hardware Company, had an interesting experience the other day when he sold a youngster a bicycle and in making payment the lad brought forth a heavy bag from which he produced 680 buffalo nickles or a total of \$34.00. Mr. Hall's curiosity was aroused and his questions unfolded the following story of thrift and self-denial to gratify an ambition which probably is without a parallel in the state: The purchaser of the bicycle was young Leonard Hayes, son of R. R. Hayes, from the lower part of the county. The boy is only 14 years old. Years ago he had an ambition to own a bicycle, but to a boy of his means the cost was prohibitive. He was a lad of determination, however, and made up his mind to save his nickles until the amount was large enough to buy the bicycle. In the year 1914 he began to lay up his savings. When a piece of money came into his possession he converted it into nickles which he placed carefully in his money bag. Before long the nickles began to accumulate, and he had visions of the bicycle that he would some day own. The glad day came just after Christmas and he took out his money bag, carried his nickles to the hardware store, counted out the money and handed it over to Mr. Hall for the bicycle. There was no happier boy in the world than Leonard when he mounted the shining bicycle and rode off towards his home. There is in the story a lesson of self-denial which many people would do well to learn.

ATLANTA PASTOR SCORES BIG HIT

Church Packed Following Trial in Police Court.

Atlanta, Jan. 24.—As an aftermath of a police court trial that exonerates him of a charge of insulting Mrs. C. B. Hamilton, of this city, Rev. Caleb A. Ridley, pastor of a local church, Sunday morning from his pulpit virtually charged his accusers with having plotted to make him a victim of a "badger game" for the purpose of obtaining funds which he now claims to hold to meet expenses of a new church erected by his congregation.

When the pastor announced he would attempt to place the principals in the prosecution against him "behind the bars of a prison" he was applauded by the congregation and the meeting was described as perhaps the most sensational hour's service ever witnessed in an Atlanta church.

Dr. Ridley brought his remarks about the Hamilton case to a close with an appeal for funds to finish the church under construction and within a few moments more than \$1,000 was subscribed.

The Hamilton-Ridley case has attracted much attention throughout the city and long before the pastor began his sermon yesterday morning the church was crowded with many people being compelled to stand.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

Items of Interest Taken from the Herald Files of 15 Years Ago.

Miss Nina Jackson left Monday for Charleston where she will resume her duties as governess in the family of Mr. E. L. Lomberg.

Dr. J. P. Ewing left Sunday for Goldsboro where he will spend several days before going to Mt. Gilead to attend the marriage of Miss Monte Christian.

Mr. W. D. Rogers, better known as "Little Billy" Rogers died at a hospital in Wilmington last week after an illness of several months.

This afternoon at Beulah church near Alfordville Mr. John Hargrove of Little Rock will be married to Miss Cora McRae, one of Marion county's prettiest and most accomplished young ladies.

Harley Rogers takes the blue ribbon as the champion hog raiser of the county. A few days ago Mr. Rogers killed a four year old porker which tipped the scales at 610 pounds.

It is said that 15,000 gallons of whiskey were shipped out of Wilmington Christmas week. Multiplied by 64 (the estimated number of drinks to the gallon) shows that there were exactly 960,000 headaches in the two Carolinas Christmas morning.

John Carmichael is making preparations to open a furniture store in one of the brick store being erected by Mr. D. McLaurin at the corner of Railroad avenue and Harrison street. At the annual meeting of the Commercial Club Thursday evening the following officers were elected for the year: C. T. O'Ferral, president; E. R. Hamer, vice-president; Jack Watson, secretary and treasurer. J. M. Sprunt, Dr. J. H. David, A. B. Jordan, W. T. Bethea, J. D. Haselden and E. L. Moore, board of governors.

Rowland, N. C., Jan. 13. (1906)—A most delightful reception was given a party of young people at Merchants Hotel last Wednesday evening. Promptly at 8 o'clock the guests began to arrive and were received by Miss Lena McCormack. The music of the evening was grand and especially did it merit applause when Prof. Ariel of Dillon, entertained in his usual way—his whistling art. Those present were: Miss Della Hamer and Rose Galloway, of Clio; Flora and Dora Thompson of McDonalds; Ruth Lavelle Smith of Edenton; Bessie and Lena McCormack, Lillian and Annie Smith, Sallie McArn and Minnie Townsend of Rowland; Messrs. J. L. Gantley, W. J. Galloway, Dr. L. F. Johnson and Prof. W. C. Ariel of Dillon, Dr. Jesse Hamer of Clio, Hector McLean of Maxton, Dr. Tom Graham, Charles Sinclair, Dan McLaurin, Scion Alford, J. R. Bracey, Chas. Cox, Guy Carter, and Ed. Callahan.

Benton Haselden, a prosperous young farmer from near Sellers was among the visitors here Tuesday.

FARMERS URGED TO MEET.

Dillon county farmers particularly and Dillon county men of all other professions are urged to attend the last of the cotton acreage reduction meetings at the court house next Tuesday morning, February 1, at 10:30 o'clock. Meetings have been held during the week at different places throughout the county, and the attendance has been good. Many farmers are signing the pledges for reduction and others have promised substantial reduction in acreage. Tuesday's meeting at the court house closes the county campaign for acreage reduction and at this meeting it is hoped to put in concrete form the results of the several meetings and adopt some definite plan of action for the county as a whole. This is a matter of vital interest not only to the farmer but to every man in the county, and it is hoped there will be a large and representative gathering at Tuesday's meeting. The meeting opens promptly at 10:30 o'clock.

MEMBERS OF MOB CAN'T BE FOUND.

Home Guard Under Arms at Warren- ton and Ready to Act in Emergency.

Warrenton, N. C., Jan. 24.—All efforts to apprehend members of the mob which last night broke into the Warren county jail, removed two negroes and shot them to death, were set aside today in the anxiety of authorities to forestall a riot of violence.

Nine negroes left in the mob were taken today. Raleigh for safe keeping. Afternoon five additional were made and these prisoners for whom warrants have escaped.

The Warrenton home guard, ordered out by Governor Moore last night, has been under arms and the Henderson home guard also been in readiness to meet any call that might be made. Mayor J. L. Burchard, the seat of the trouble, has rifles from Henderson and 30 citizens of the community in the case of an emergency.

However, no further out-look is regarded as probable. All of those even remotely suspected of connection with the riot early Sunday morning are gone and there are no apparent indications on the part of any other negroes to attempt to avenge the work of the mob. The coroner's jury which held an inquest this morning at the scene of the tragedy, about midway between here and Norlina five miles away, quickly returned the expected verdict of "death at the hands of known persons."

The negro jailer, John Green, who surrendered his keys to the mob, was placed upon the stand and stated he saw only five men, none of them he had ever seen before. A number of witnesses testified to a like inability to identify any members of the mob.

Solicitor Garland E. Midgett arrived early this afternoon from home in Jackson and assumed control of the situation. After a conference with local citizens he announced that he will defer an investigation of the lynching until local feeling has subsided.

The lynching and race riot came as a direct result of the purchase of ten cents worth of apples by Plummer Bullock from Braddy Traylor, clerk in a Norlina store. Bullock, it is said, returned the apples and asked for his money back, and when he had received it, cursed and when he had received it, cursed and threatened the clerk.

When Raby Traylor, brother of Braddy approached, Matthew Bullock, negro, who apparently was organizing a crowd of negroes at the depot in Norlina after midnight Saturday and asked him the cause of the trouble, Jerome Hunter, negro shot him down and then fired twice at him on the ground.

That started the shooting, Jerome Hunter, most seriously hurt of the negroes, is still in a critical condition at a Raleigh hospital, while Raby Traylor lies in a Henderson hospital not expected to live.

W. H. MULLER FOR JUDGE.

Friends of Judge Melver in the district and throughout the state are working for his appointment as Associate Justice to succeed Judge Hydrick. In the event of Judge Melver's election there will be a vacancy in this district and a movement is under way to elect Mr. W. H. Muller as Judge Melver's successor. Dillon is the only county in the district that has never had a judge. Chesterfield has had three, Darlington one and Marlboro two. Mr. Muller is one of the ablest lawyers in the state and his standing at the Bar is of the highest. If Judge Melver succeeds Mr. Hydrick, thus creating a vacancy in this district, Mr. Muller's friends will launch an active campaign to put him on the Bench.

FIRE DESTROYS GINNEY.

Mr. D. H. Hyatt's Gin 3 Miles East of Dillon Goes Up in Smoke. A fire of unknown origin destroyed the ginney of Mr. D. H. Hyatt on the old Marion-Dillon road three miles east of Dillon last Thursday night. The fire was discovered about 8 o'clock in the evening, but the flames had gained such headway that the ginney was a total loss. The engine and boiler house were located some distance from the main building and these were saved from destruction by hard work on the part of Mr. Hyatt and others who gathered at the scene. Mr. Hyatt had insurance to the amount of \$4,500, but his loss is double that amount.

FIRE DESTROYS COTTON.

Wyche Rowland, who lives ten miles northeast of Dillon, lost a barn and 40 bales of cotton by fire at an early hour Tuesday night. The origin of the fire is unknown. The barn was not insured, but the cotton was partly covered. The fire was discovered early in the evening, but the flames had gained such a headway they could not be controlled.

Sent to Dillon Jail. In the Federal Court at Columbia last week J. K. Brewer of the Brown was convicted of violating the prohibition laws and sentenced to a fine of \$200 and six months in the Dillon jail.